

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-31 are pending in the instant application. Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the method comprising:

establishing a ~~second~~logical communication path that is independent of a ~~first~~ physical communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network, wherein each network connection on said ~~first~~ physical communication path has a corresponding redundant network connection on said ~~second~~logical communication path, wherein at least a first portion of said logical communication path and at least a second portion of said logical communication path utilize different communication protocols and handle communication of different communication types~~said first and second communication paths use different communication protocols and are of different communication types~~, and wherein both of said ~~first and second~~ physical and logical communication paths are established through the same plurality of network nodes; and

transferring information that would be normally transferred over said ~~first~~ physical communication path between said at least two endpoints, via said established ~~second~~ logical communication path over said corresponding redundant network connection.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising provisioning said established ~~second~~logical communication path for handling communication functions.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein said communication functions comprise one or more of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and/or addressing management.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, comprising temporarily storing said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established ~~second~~logical communication path.

5.-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second~~logical communication path comprises one or both of a circuit switched connection and/or a packet switched connection.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein said at least two endpoints comprise a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said at least two endpoints comprises one or more of a media processing system, a media peripheral, a personal computer, a third (3rd) party media provider, a third (3rd) party storage vendor and/or a channel information server.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein each of said ~~second and said first~~ logical and said physical communication paths comprises one or both of a wired and/or a wireless communication link.

11. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium having stored thereon, a computer program having at least one code section for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the at least one code section being executable by a computer for causing the computer to perform steps comprising:

establishing a ~~second~~logical communication path that is independent of a ~~first~~ physical communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network, wherein each network connection on said ~~first~~ physical communication path has a corresponding redundant network connection on said ~~second~~logical communication path, wherein at least a first portion of said logical

communication path and at least a second portion of said logical communication path utilize different communication protocols and handle communication of different communication types~~said first and second communication paths use different communication protocols and are of different communication types~~, and wherein both of said ~~first and second~~ physical and logical communication paths are established through the same plurality of network nodes; and

transferring information that would be normally transferred over said first physical communication path between said at least two endpoints, via said established ~~second~~ logical communication path over said corresponding redundant network connection.

12. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, comprising code for provisioning said established ~~second~~logical communication path for handling communication functions.

13. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 12, wherein said communication functions comprise one or more of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and/or addressing management.

14. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, comprising code for temporarily storing said information during

said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established ~~second~~logical communication path.

15.-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said second communication path comprises one or both of a circuit switched connection and~~or~~or a packet switched connection.

18. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein said at least two endpoints comprise a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

19. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein each of said at least two endpoints comprises one or more of a media processing system, a media peripheral, a personal computer, a third (3rd) party media provider, a third (3rd) party storage vendor and~~or~~or a channel information server.

20. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium according to claim 11, wherein each of said ~~second and said first~~logical and said physical communication paths comprises one or both of a wired and/or a wireless communication link.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting a plurality of broadband networks and various service provider infrastructures, the system comprising:

at least one processor executing a provisioning protocol that establishes a ~~second~~logical communication path that is independent of a ~~first~~ physical communication path that couples at least two end points via at least a first broadband network, wherein each network connection on said ~~first~~ physical communication path has a corresponding redundant network connection on said ~~second~~logical communication path, wherein at least a first portion of said logical communication path and at least a second portion of said logical communication path utilize different communication protocols and handle communication of different communication types~~said first and second communication paths use different communication protocols and are of different communication types,~~ and wherein both of said ~~first and second~~ physical and logical communication paths are established through the same plurality of network nodes; and

said at least one processor transfers information that would normally be transferred over said ~~first~~ physical communication path between said at least two endpoints, via said established ~~second~~ logical communication path over said corresponding redundant network connection.

22. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, said at least one processor provisions said established ~~second~~logical communication path for handling communication functions.

23. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 22, wherein said communication functions comprise one or more of operations administration maintenance and provisioning (OAM&P), roaming, user authentication, media transfer, caching, storage management and/or addressing management.

24. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor temporarily stores said information during said transferring of said information between said at least two endpoints via said established ~~second~~logical communication path.

25.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said ~~second~~logical communication path comprises one or both of a circuit switched connection and/or a packet switched connection.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least two endpoints comprise a first source endpoint and at least a first destination endpoint.

29. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein each of said at least two endpoints comprises one or more of a media processing system, a media peripheral, a personal computer, a third (3rd) party media provider, a third (3rd) party storage vendor and/or a channel information server.

30. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein each of said ~~second and said first~~ logical and said physical communication paths comprises one or both of a wired and/or a wireless communication link.

31. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 21, wherein said at least one processor comprises one or more of a media processing system processor, a media management system processor, a computer processor, a media exchange software processor and/or a media peripheral processor.